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FLOOR DEBATE

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When LB 126 comes in with the requirements, there's many arbitrary numbers that are there, no scientific numbers. Ten miles; why not five miles? Why not three miles? Why not two miles? Why ten miles? And I would like to refer back to Senator Heidemann's comments about ten miles. I'm originally from Hamilton County, and Hamilton County, you can go around the section. You start at my house, go around the section and come back, takes four miles. When I moved up to Sherman County, I had no idea you couldn't go around the section. In fact, the first time I ended up trying to go around the section, ended up in a riverbed. Not only are riverbeds available, so to speak, around the section; you end up on a minimum maintenance road. You can't get from here to there by going around the section. Decided one time when I was campaigning, I was going north of Wolbach on 281. I wanted to go over to Elba. Looking at the map it appeared that I could get to Elba, but you know what? The river runs through it. There was no way for me to get from where I was to get to Elba. I ended up getting lost, having to go back to 281 to go about 20 miles around the area to get to Elba. We do not have roads that go as the bird flies, so that ten miles doesn't end up being ten miles. It's a lot further than that. We basically have two Nebraskas. We have the type of Nebraska where everything is flat and you can get from here to there. You can't get from here to there. The other thing that was enlightening when I moved to Sherman County, Rockville, Nebraska, we had no natural gas; only had electricity. H'm, coming from Hamilton County, you have natural gas, you have electricity, you have a choice. We don't have natural gas. No natural gas is even piped into the house. Everything has to be total electric. It's totally different, and that's only in Sherman County. What about way out west where Senator Loudon lives? It's totally different. Yesterday or the day before we had information coming in from the pharmacist, and I looked at my district. I have one county that we don't even have a pharmacist. The other counties have one pharmacist. Let me tell me, in Lincoln and Omaha we have lots of pharmacists, but not in rural Nebraska, so we can't take those same requirements and apply those to rural Nebraska. We need the opportunity to add those option enrollment students. We need to verify whether ten miles is a scientific number. These are arbitrary numbers. Two and a half students, resident students, per grade is